1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MAIN COMMITTEE III

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 4th MEETING

Held at United Nations Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 28 April 1995, at 10 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. RAMAKER (Netherlands)

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REVIEW OF WORK TO DATE

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The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

REVIEW OF WORK TO DATE

1. The CHAIRMAN reviewed the progress of the Committee's work. In its capacity as an open-ended Drafting Group, the Committee had completed its first reading of working papers 1, 2, 3 and 4. He characterized the examination of those papers as constructive and said that the Drafting Group would proceed to combine into a cohesive text the many proposals that had been put forward.

2. Mr. STOIBER (United States of America) expressed his delegation's agreement with the Chairman's positive assessment of the Committee's work. Certain questions were raised by some of the suggestions which had been offered, but the positive tenor of the debate thus far encouraged his delegation to look forward to further productive work on the document dealing with the peaceful uses of nuclear energy under the Treaty.

3. Mrs. COLL (Ireland) said that Ireland, a co-sponsor of the working papers, had opted not to use nuclear energy for power generation. Its peaceful nuclear policy strongly emphasized nuclear safety, including radiological protection and the safe management of nuclear waste. Issues of nuclear safety before the Committee were therefore of greatest concern to her delegation. Ireland's approach to the issue of nuclear safety and to the nuclear-safety programme of IAEA was based on a firm conviction that nuclear safety was a matter of legitimate international concern. Her delegation was also pleased and reassured to note that increased concern for nuclear safety had become one of the key factors shaping the activities of the IAEA in the promotion of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

4. Her delegation had been disappointed with the limited scope of the nuclear safety Convention opened for signature in 1994; it therefore attached considerable importance to complementing that Convention with a sound and comprehensive nuclear waste-management safety convention, as reflected in the draft language proposed in the Committee. In the adoption of decisions concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, it was legitimate to expect that all countries would take account of the potential for transboundary impact and its implications for nuclear waste management and other issues related to such uses.

The meeting rose at 10.35 a.m.